Message Text

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TO ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY

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PARIS FOR USOECD, BRUSSELS FOR USEEC

FOLLOWING REPEAT GENEVA 07645 A CTION SECSTATE INF NATO DATED SEP 08:

OTE: CONFIDENTIAL GENEVA 7645

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ECE, SCCE, SENV, NATO

SUBJ: ECE WESTERN CAUCUS DISCUSSION ON ENVIRONMENT MEETING SEPT 5,

1977

REF: GENEVA 7618

1. SUBSEQUENT TO REFTEL WE DISCUSSED WITH ECE SECRETARIAT (STILLMAN) SECRETARIAT'S VIEWS ON OUTCOME OF SEPTEMBER 19-21 MEETING OF SENIOR ADVISERS ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS (SAEP). STILLMAN STRESSED THAT CONTRARY TO IMPRESSION NORWEGIANS WERE GIVING, SECRETARIAT IS NOT PUSHING TO HAVE TASK FORCES ESTABLISHED TO ANALYSE POSSIBLE TOPICS FOR A HIGH-LEVEL MEETING. ALTHOUGH ECE EXEC SEC STANOVNIK DID TOSS OUT IDEA OF TASK FORCES AT WESTERN CAUCUS LUNCHEON MEETING IN MAY; HE HAS NOT PUSHED IT SINCE THEN. IF GOVERNMENTS AT SAEP MEETING WANT TO ESTABLISH TASK CONFIDENTIAL

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FORCES TO UNDERTAKE FURTHER TECHNICAL ELABORATION OF TOPICS AND ADD DETAILS TO REPORT, SECRETARIAT WOULD WELCOME THIS MOVE, BUT THEY ARE IN A POSITION TO PREPARE THEIR REPORT WITHOUT THIS ASSISTANCE. SECRETARIAT TAKES POSITION THAT REPLY TO STANOVIK'S LETTER FROM MEMBER GOVERNMENTS CONSTITUTES CONSULTATION AND CONVENING OF SAEP MEETING CONSTITUTES ASSISTANCE FROM SAEP REQUIRED IN RESOLUTION XXXII(1).

STILLMAN DID NOTE THAT BISHOP, HEAD OF ENVIRONMENT AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS DIVISION, WOULD LIKE TO SEE TASK FORCES ESTABLISHED, BUT THIS IS NOT ORGANIZATION'S OFFICIAL VIEW.

- 2. SOVIETS HAVE INDICATED TO STANOVNIK THEIR RELUCTANCE TO HAVE TASK FORCES ESTABLISHED BECAUSE THEY FEAR THAT WEST MAY BE USING THEM FOR DELAYING TACTICS.
- 3. COMMENT: AT THIS POINT IT IS NOT CLEAR WHO BESIDES THE NORWEGIANS SUPPORT THE IDEA OF HAVING TASK FORCES, BUT WE STILL BELIEVE WASHINGTON SHOULD HAVE SOME VIEWS ON THE MATTER AS THE NORWEGIANS ARE CONTINUING TO PUSH IT. VANDEN HEUVEL UNQTE VANCE

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